

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 EUR-12 ACDA-07
SAJ-01 /113 W

-----281348Z 084254 /44

R 280615Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8960

INFO USINT BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, IZ, ID

SUBJECT: IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT VISITS INDONESIA

1. SUMMARY: DURING JANUARY 24-26 VISIT TO INDONESIA IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT, TAHA MUHYDDIN MAROUF, SIGNED NEW BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT AND HELD DISCUSSIONS ON A NUMBER OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST. MAROUF ANNOUNCED IRAQ'S SUPPORT FOR INDONESIA ON EAST TIMOR ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

2. IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT, TAHA MUHYDDIN MAROUF, VISITED JAKARTA JANUARY 24-26 AT HEAD OF 63-MEMBER DELEGATION AMONG WHOM WERE FOREIGN MINISTER, DR. HAADON HAMADY, TRADE MINISTER, HIKMAT IBRAHIM, CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR, DR. FACHRY QADARY AND DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, ABDULLAH ALGASEN, DURING COURSE OF VISIT, MAROUF HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO, VICE PRESIDENT SULTAN HAMENGKU BUWONO IX, FOREIGN MINISTER ADAM MALIK AND OTHER TOP ECONOMIC OFFICIALS IN GOI.

3. TRADE AGREEMENT: ACCORDING TO PRESS, HIGHLIGHT OF VISIT WAS SIGNING OF NEW BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT THAT REPORTEDLY UPDATES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PREVIOUS AGREEMENT OF APRIL, 1960. IN JANUARY 26 JOINT COMMUNIQUE, QUOTE... THE TWO LEADERS AGREED TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS, PARTICULARLY TO INCREASE TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON AS WIDE AS POSSIBLE A RANGE OF COMMODITIES END QUOTE.

4. OPEC: DESPITE FANFARE GIVEN TO PROSPECTS OF EXPANDED ECONOMIC AND TRADE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, THERE

IS EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT AT LEAST MOST OF THE IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT'S TIME (IF NOT THAT OF OTHER DELEGATION MEMBERS) WAS DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF OPEC AND POLITICAL ISSUES. CONTRARY TO EARLIER DENIALS BY GOI THAT OPEC STRATEGY WOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT, LATTER ANNOUNCED AT JANUARY 25 PRESS CONFERENCE THAT OPEC ISSUES HAD FIGURED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO. MAROUF STRESSED THAT IRAQ WOULD UPHOLD OIL PRICE INCREASES, WHICH HE SAID WERE DUE TO INFLATION CREATED BY THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS. HE SAID THAT DEVELOPMENT OF "DUALISM" IN PRICES AMONG OPEC MEMBERS WOULD SURELY BE RESOLVED, AND THAT IT WAS ONLY OF A "TEMPORARY NATURE."

5. EAST TIMOR: DURING JANUARY 25 PRESS CONFERENCE, MAROUF STATED THAT HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD INDONESIA'S POSITION WITH REGARD TO EAST TIMOR ISSUE, AND THAT HIS COUNTRY SUPPORTED INDONESIA'S EFFORTS TO UNITE ITS TERRITORY. QUOTE IRAQ KNOWS THAT THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR HAVE DECIDED TO INTEGRATE WITH INDONESIA OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL END QUOTE, HE SAID. THE JANUARY 26 JOINT COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWED SAME VEIN.

6. INDIAN OCEAN: THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE STATED THAT BOTH SIDES QUOTE... REVIEWED THE SITUATION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND REAFFIRMED THAT THE SECURITY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN SHOULD BE ENSURED BY ITS LITTORAL AND HINTERLAND STATES. ... THEY NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE CONCEPT OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AND ITS

NATURAL EXTENSIONS BE A ZONE OF PEACE, FREE FROM GREAT POWERS' RIVALRIES, TENSION AND MILITARY ESCALATION HAD GAINED WIDE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUPPORT AND THAT THERE WAS GROWING REALIZATION AMONG STATES THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE U.N. RESOLUTIONS IN THIS REGARD WOULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS STRENGTHENING THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND PROMOTING TRUE INTERESTS OF THOSE STATES END QUOTE.

7. PALESTINIAN CAUSE: IN HIS CONCLUDING REMARKS AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, MAROUF SAID THERE WOULD BE NO JUST AND DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST UNTIL PALESTINIANS REGAIN QUOTE... THEIR FULL NATIONAL RIGHTS TO THEIR TERRITORY AND HOMELAND END QUOTE, AND APPEALED TO INDONESIA TO CLOSE RANKS WITH IRAQ AND OTHER NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AGAINST QUOTE... THE RAPID EFFORTS EXERTED IN THE WORLD OF TODAY BY THE IMPERIALIST FORCES TO PERPETUATE THEIR FOOTHOLDS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD...END QUOTE. WORDING OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS CONSIDERABLY SOFTENED COMPARED TO MAROUF'S REMARKS TO PRESS.

8. NEW ECONOMIC ORDER: BOTH LEADERS ALSO AGREED TO COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY IN STRIVING TO ACHIEVE REALIZATION OF NEW ECONOMIC

ORDER. ACCORDING TO JOINT COMMUNIQUE, QUOTE... THEY REITERATED THEIR TOTAL COMMITMENT TO THE UNCTAD INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES AND EXPRESSED THEIR DETERMINATION TO REALIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMON FUND BY MAKING PLEDGES FOR SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS END QUOTE.

9. JOINT COMMUNIQUE ALSO REFERRED TO DISCUSSIONS ON CLOSER BILATERAL COOPERATION ON SUCH MATTERS AS DETENTE, ARMS RACE, AND NON-ALIGNMENT.

10. IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT MAROUF EXTENDED INVITATION TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO, ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT AHMAD HASSAN AL BAKR, AND TO VICE PRESIDENT SULTAN HAMENGKU BUWONO IX TO VISIT IRAQ. BOTH INVITATIONS WERE ACCEPTED, WITH DATES TO BE DECIDED UPON LATER.

11. VICE PRESIDENT MAROUF AND HIS ENTOURAGE RECEIVED RED CARPET TREATMENT. PRESS COVERAGE WAS WIDE AND FAVORABLE, IF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOMEWHAT RESTRAINED.

12. COMMENT: IRAQI'S PERHAPS SAW JAKARTA VISIT AS CONVENIENT REST STOP ON LONG TRIP HOME FROM JAPAN AS WELL AS TIMELY OCCASION TO DISCUSS OPEC PRICING ISSUE. GOI FOR ITS PART UNDOUBTEDLY PLEASED WITH PRE-ELECTION OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE ARAB SUPPORT FOR ITS TIMOR POLICY (IRAQ ABSTAINED IN UNGA VOTE ON THIS ISSUE) AND TO POLISH ITS THIRD WORLD IMAGE.

NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JAKART01272
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770031-0639
Format: TEL
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977019/aaaaahpi.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3678828
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT VISITS INDONESIA
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, OVIP, IZ, ID, (MA\RUF, TAHA MUHI-AL-DIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/76f4e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009